Previous references. (1926-S, P.P.)

File No. 50-24

Serial Nos. 1-10

Later references.

19-25 Vol I-B
9-13
P P. 19-25-25-L27, 49, 37

Preserve

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. Ser (10)

Part B for April 1928

SUBJECT

Shifting of the Rifle Range at Hebbal

Sl 10 To The Deputy Commissioner Bangalore D.O. 87678/- Sl-4-1928

Requests that work & further instructions are issued, steps may be taken for clearing the additional area required on each occasion on receipt of intimation from the Central Military authorities. Keep possession of the range.

B170

Ser

G. R. S. III-2]

WD 2310—GPB—10,000—31-5-24

General and Revenue Secretariat.

T.P. File No. 50 of 1924.

Serial No. 1

From

The Secy to the Resident
No 8218 dt 18/10/24
Requesting in the
circumstances explained
that the Duty authorities
may be permitted to close
all traffic on the land
required to define a proper
safety zone while shooting
is in progress in the
rifle range at Hebbal.
1 P.P. with reply - Despatched
(Sd) K. Su.
20-10-24

upces

2 Subl with 2 drafts.

2/ TBS 22/10.
22/10

hw 26/10

(Undersecy)

3 You must furnish previous
ups & submit a full note.
(Matter requiring early the
range & has been in correspondence
about Railways & other
inadequate)

2
30/10
hw

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

Serial No.

4 Sub 2

The Office is not aware of any complaint made in the past by the Military authorities either about the danger zone being inadequate or the Military training being interfered with.

5 On the other hand in connection with the question of shifting the range they said that the present range affords all the necessary facilities for training. In the same connection, however, they said that the danger zone of the present range is not in accordance with the modern requirements but this was apparently in justification of the demand for a larger area in exchange for the present site.

Please bring up

Note—Contn. sheet 4/4

31/10.

31/10 Chd

5/4

D.O.No. 8789

THE RESIDENCY,
BANGALORE.

Dated 6th November 1924.

RIFLE RANGE AT HEBBAL.

Dear Mr. Matthan

I am desired to invite a reference to my letter No.8248, dated the 18th October 1924 and to ask that action may kindly be expedited as the training of the troops is being interfered with and delayed.

Yours sincerely
Matthan

K. Matthan, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

BJ

8 Sub'd
9 The file connected with this was Sub'd to Chief Secy today.

Ch Secy

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

General and Revenue Secretariat.

P.P File No. 50 of 1924.

DEWAN'S OFFICE,
RECD. ON 7 NOV. 1924
Reg. No. 3332

Serial No.

10 The present [illegible] avoid all reference to the previous correspondence on the subject of removal of the Rifle Range from [illegible]. The Military authorities were saying that they were quite content with the present Range. Now it transpires that it is not adequate. The proposal to extend the danger zone should not in my opinion be agreed to. It will result in the people of the adjoining villages being interfered with in their ordinary pursuits. Moreover we cannot have Military sentries posted× over land not in Military control. We must ~~not~~ urge again for the Range being removed.

× Vide note on plan

11 [illegible] draft× for consideration

[illegible] 7/11

[illegible] 7/11

× Type & submit [illegible]

13 May issue with [illegible] approval. [illegible]

14 [illegible] 11/11

G.R.S. III-2]

5

File No. of 19 .

General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No.

15D 5 N. Subst.

Demi

64 11/4

6 49 11 1

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Submitted to His Highness.

"S"

17 The Secretary to the Resident has written to say that the Military Authorities have represented that the danger zone behind the Rifle Range at Hebbal is inadequate and have requested that the Mysore Government may "permit them to close all traffic on the land required to define a proper danger zone while shooting is in progress so that they can use the whole range or at least 20 targets".

18 Apart from the interference from the ordinary agricultural and other pursuits of the people of the adjoining villages which this proposal involves, there are obvious objections to the Military Authorities exercising virtual control over land not in their occupation.

19 The question of shifting the Rifle Range has been under consideration for sometime past and it has not yet been settled. In July 1923, the Colonel Commandant, Bangalore Brigade area, suggested after personal discussion with me that he, with a representative of Mysore, should reconnoitre and report on other available and suitable sites for a rifle range. Mr. Bowring and the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, were nominated as our representatives in January 1924. Nothing further has been heard in the matter.

"A"

"B"

20 It is therefore proposed to suggest to the Residency that the present proposal may be abandoned and that the question of shifting the range may be expedited. A draft on these lines has been put up which may be graciously approved.

"Draft" Inappl

Bangalore,
11th November 1924.

11 NOV 1924

S.N.
C&R.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

H.H. No. 570

11.11.1924.

21 *Proposal to extend the danger zone of the Hebbal Rifle Range when shooting is in progress.*

326

Order.

KRW
13/11/24

Chief Secy
HD
13.11.1924

To Ismail
14/11
Mysore 14

Secretariat.

Serial No.	
2	To the Secy to the Resident No Pol 399 dt 15.11.24 States that the present proposal may be abandoned as that the question of shifting the Rifle Range may be further investigated and expedited
3.	D.O. No. 1279 S dt 13.2.25 From the Secy to the Resident States that the question of the removal of the range is under Consideration of the Military Authorities & requests that meanwhile an adequate danger zone may be provided at least as a temporary arrangement. 2nd Subd. As the Military Authorities are pressing for the provision of an adequate danger zone in the present range, and the Residency requests that the wishes of the Military Authorities in this respect may be met at least as a temporary arrangement, the D.C. may perhaps be requested to report on the feasibility of providing the Zone asked for, and the period for which the Zone may be given up pending the removal of the Butts. The P.S. to H.H. the Maharaja has also to be consulted. SDO 14/2/25 Two drafts are accordingly submitted SDO 14/2/25

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

6/ The Residency says that the question of shifting the range to a new place is under active consideration and request in the meanwhile that the additional facility required in the case of the Hebbal Range may be given. There are serious objections to giving the additional ground to the old range (Vide our letter of 15.11.24) Also the Question of shifting has been under consideration too long and to give an additional danger zone to the old range will result in delaying the shifting to a new one. Besides, the joint inspection that was suggested by the Residency has taken place and it is time that proposals for shifting were received. The best thing in the circumstances seems to be to state in reply that it is understood that the joint inspection proposed in the Res't letter has been completed and to request that ~~early~~ proposals may be obtained early from the Mily for shifting and promise early disposal of the same, and to say that in these circumstances and for the reasons stated in our letter of 15.11.24 it does not seem necessary to consider the question of giving additional

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

land to the old ~~Bund~~ range.

26 If this view is approved draft will be put up accordingly and a D.S.N. if considered necessary

Mc 16/2

(Ch Secy)

27 In spite of the somewhat pressing nature of the letter from the Residency, and the circumstances indicated therein ~~to~~ intended to show that the arrangement would be a purely temporary one, I think the proposal should not be accepted, in view of the previous history, and the special circumstances, of ~~attending~~ this case It seems to me that a reply in the lines suggested in the Asst Secy's note should be sent. If approved a draft letter be put up, and also a D.S.N. if necessary

(Dewan)

23.2.25

28 A demi-official letter received today from the Resy saying that the additional area will be required from 1st March and a reply thereto are sent for approval. This reply will have to go immediately if considered suitable

Rec 23/2

(Ch Secy)

P.T.O.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

28 Put back from Dewan's office for issuing D.O. letter dated 23/2

Serial No.

DEWAN'S OFFICE,
Rec'd. on 23. FEB. 1925
Reg. No. 6175

2/ The virtual extension of the Range, though said to be ~~permanent~~ temporary, should not, I think, be agreed to. The question of the shifting of the Range itself has been pending for a long time, and now the matter can not be rushed in the manner proposed. The draft D.O. reply may be sent immediately ~~sent~~, I think

23.2.25

Dewan)

3/ ~~It~~ The Commandant should know that his reply from his Residency is awaited and his Assistant Resident in his absence says that his marketing contractors are considering his cost of removal. It is not correct to say in his draft that a reply will be sent shortly. On his own showing that reply is awaited. If this need be correct, his draft requires slight amendment. It may be revised on the lines suggested in his draft or in any other suitable manner so his reply does not arrive

4/ The reply may also be awaited for his memorandum & Mr Mayne's.

23/2

3/ The main question for decision is the shifting of the Range. On this point, no doubt, a reply is due

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

Serial No.

from the Residency.

3½ But the D.O. Letter of the Secy to the Resident, dated 13th Instt, contains a request that the ~~Military~~ wishes of the Military authorities for the provision of an adequate danger zone may be met, at least as a temporary arrangement. A reply to this suggestion is due from us, and the point has been noted upon at paras 25 to 27 above.

3½ The draft D.O. now put up seems all right. I have made a slight addition to make the point clear. It may be issued and the file resubmitted with a D.S.N. indicating the reply sent to the D.O. of the 23rd, and the reply proposed to be sent to the Secy's D.O. of 13th.

24.2.25

Asst Secy
P.P.

36 Pr Submit fair copy to the Secy

5 To The Secy to the Resident 25/2
D.O. No Pol 428 dt 26.2.1925

State, that the question of zoning the additional danger zone is under consideration and requests that the Mily authorities may be asked to confine practice to the belts which have been in use hitherto.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

File No.

Serial No.

D.S. as is submitted

26/2 38 Please make a typed copy of the draft

Subd.

D.O. from Major Evans Gordon No 1702 dt 26.2.25. 6

States that the military authorities in order to be free of responsibility in the matter, have selected the area, and have notified their intention of practicing there & that it remains only to inform the villagers of this fact so as to avoid casualities that are likely to occur and thus the responsibility of the military authorities ceases after informing the same.

3) Chief Secy's note thereon:

"Put up the papers at once

Do not the mily authorities directly write to the Dy. Commr. of Bangalore giving notice for necessary precautions being taken."-

4) Subd with the previous papers.

4) The practice has been to inform the Dc. immediately on receipt of the information here so that he may take action for notifying the villagers

26/2 27.2.25 The present correspondence seems intended merely to pave

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

a decision on the issue of an additional area being given as danger zone. It is clear that the existing danger zone was considered sufficient from 1914 the date of the amended Musketry Regulations until a very short time ago. There is no reason why the butts should be given up on the score of affording the Road & Hebbal village which hitherto were considered perfectly safe. The old Eastern half of the butts are proving and the western half taken up now merely to bring more land than hitherto conceded in firing range

43 It seems essential that pending some understanding between the Residency and Govt being arrived at the Mily shd not do anything which will have the effect of forcing us to add to the existing danger zone

44 A draft is put up for cons. deviation The DSN previously required is also put up for appl

Mw 7/2

(Ch Secy) 45 I think a reply as put up should go to meet the general observations contained in the latest letter of the Resdy.

A D.S.N. is also subd explaining

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

immediate action is taken to inform Dr C Bangalore that firing practice will begin on 1st March

Mw 9/2

This is noted - It should be seen that there is no trouble on this account -

Mw 27/2/25

Answer -

Serial No.

the circumstances and the present situation

(Dewan) Dmp-appd MW 27/2 27.2.25. MW 27/2 MW 28/2

DEWAN'S OFFICE, RECD. ON 27. FEB. 1925 Reg. No. 6339

46 Issue draft-D.O abruee, & pass on file to Dewan's Office for further action re the D.S.N abstd by Dewan — 4 Rlt to Dorsett Web Secy as personally omitted MW 28/2

28/2/25

47 Br done draft and subt file to Web Secy MW 28/2

7

To the Secy to the Resident D.O.no Pol 946 dt 28.2.1925

States that the strength of Ramgarh Regt was be occupied in view of the proposed shiftings Ramgarh

48 Resubmitted as directed above (Para 4)

3/3/25 TBB 3.3. (Chief Secy)

49 To make the draft letter complete, a sentence was in anticipation of approval added at the conclusion of the letter issued.

50 Subd with a D.S.N.

DEWAN'S OFFICE, RECD. ON 4 MAR. 1925 Reg. No 6455

4.3.25

NOTE—Contn. Sheet (Dewan) .. 51 Appd MW 5/3

52 In continuation of Mr.Banerji's Submission Note dated 11th November 1924, I beg to submit herewith the demi-official correspondence with the Residency which has taken place on the subject of the Hebbal Rifle Range. In a D.O.letter dated the 13th February 1925 the Secretary to the Resident states that the question of shifting of the Range is under the active consideration of the Military authorities and that estimates for shifting are under preparation and that in the mean-while they press for an adequate danger zone being added to the present range, at least as a temporary arrangement. While this proposal was yet being considered, the Secretary to the Resident wrote again on the 23rd February 1925 stating that the Military authorities proposed to commence firing practice on the Main Butts from 1st March and sent a plan and note thereon stating that the Geddahalli village shown thereon would have to be cleared. As it is undesirable that the question of extending the danger zone should be rushed in this manner and in order that the Military authorities might not make use of the additional danger zone they ask for before we agree to their doing so a reply was sent pending decision on the letter of the 13th ~~instant~~ idem to the effect that the Military Authorities might confine themselves to firing practice within the existing area. As regards the proposal in that letter that the additional danger zone may be given at least as a temporary measure, it may be stated that a joint inspection of the new site suggested by the Residency last year has already taken place and that there should be no difficulty in pushing through the question of shifting the range, and that for the short time that may have to elapse before it is completed, it is unnecessary to add to the existing danger zone. To the difficulties in the way of giving the additional zone which have been stated in Mr.Banerji's

Submission Note dated 11th November 1924, may be added the consideration that to grant further facilities using the present range may have the effect of delaying the arrangements for shifting to the new range. In these circumstances it is proposed to reply that it does not seem necessary to consider the question of giving additional land to the old range and that the proposals of shifting the range may be sent early and that everything possible will be done to help the military authorities to expedite shifting to the new range.

53 This may be graciously approved.

54 Another D.O.letter on the same subject received on the 26th February 1925 and the reply sent thereto are also placed in the file for the gracious perusal of His Highness.

Bangalore,
6th March 1925.

S.A.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

55

Papers relating to a proposal of the Residency for extending the danger zone of the Hebbal Rifle Range at least as a temporary measure.

616

Order.

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record]

56 Subd. A Copy of the letter may be taken by the typist later on. A D.S. N is put up.

57 The file was subd. to Devon on 4/3/25 with a D.S.N.

8mD 11/3/25 TBS

58 Keep a copy of letter and submit

11/3

Mw 11/3

59 Copy taken ~~re~~subd

8mD TBS 4/3/25 11/3

60 D.S.N subd ~~for~~ The present comm. will be dealt with on receipt of the main file back with order

Mw 11/3

(Chfes)

61 In view of what is stated in this letter the reply previously proposed may perhaps be modified to the effect that as the extension is required only for ~~oats~~ Barley the regulations and that ~~to~~ for only a short period between now and the shipping

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

WD 1880—GPB—1,50 000—2 5-23

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

to the new ranges, we have no objection to undertake to clear the extra area required as for a practice in field firing on due intimation being given each time and that this will meet all requirements without adding formally to the Danger zone —

Mw
11/3

(Ch Secy)

62 A D.S.N. is put up in accordance with instructions. The last para is added, subject to approval.

[The main file was submitted to Dewan with a D.S.N. on 4-3-25.]

Mw
12-3-25

(Dewan).

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Submitted to His Highness.

---

63 In continuation of my Submission Note dated 6th March 1925 I submit, for the gracious perusal of His Highness, copy of D.O. letter No. 2096 dated 9th instant received from the Residency on the question of the extension of the Danger Zone at Hebbal, and beg to state as follows:--

64 In the letter under reference, three courses have been suggested, viz.,

(i) that the Military authorities should be absolved of any responsibility arising on account of any accident in shooting;

(ii) that orders might issue at once increasing the danger zone, and

(iii) that orders might issue at once instructing the local authorities to clear the additional zone while the range is in use.

65 With regard to the first, it is not possible for the Mysore Government to take the responsibility. The responsibility is indefinite and depends entirely upon the precautionary measures which the military authorities might adopt. Their vigilance might slacken if they are assured that the Mysore Government is responsible for any accidents that might occur. It is not possible to adopt this course.

66 As regards the second course, the question of shifting the range would not have been taken up if it was agreeable.

67 As regards the third course, this may be adopted for the current year, provided that the question of shifting the site is settled as early as possible.

68 A reply is proposed to be given on these lines which may be graciously approved.

Camp, Bhadravati,
17th March 1925.

Mr Thompson
Hy Newn

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

67 Letter from the Residency on the question of the extension of the Danger Zone at Hebbal.

626

70 *Order.*

KRM
19/3/25

71 Acknowledge
a reply may be sent
+ a copy is placed in
the file.
KRM
22/3

72 Put up a draft letter to D.C. B'lore (vide penultimate para of the D.O. Letter sent to Resdy).
23.3.25

73

P.P.
23/3

Serial No.

Serial Issued D.O. no bA 11 dt 22.3.25

14. Draft subd for approval

23/3 TBS 24/3

15 subd with a typed copy & bbl.

TBS 24/3

24.3.25

16 for approval

26/3

17 Ch Secy)

Returned approved

27.3.25.

10 To Dy D.C. Bangalore bl.

No G/4648 dt 1.6.1925

Requests that until further instructions are issued steps may be taken for clearing the additional area required on each occasion on receipt of information from the British military authorities when they propose to make use of the range.

B and return by Temple no 33537 kept in Steno's P.P.

TBS 15/4

15/4

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

D.O.No. [illegible]

THE RESIDENCY,
BANGALORE.

Dated 18th October 1924.

RIFLE RANGE AT HEBBAL.

P.P 50-24-1

The Military authorities represent that owing to the inadequacy of the danger zone behind the butts at Hebbal Range, they have had to close down 20 targets. This necessarily will interfere seriously with training, but at the same time the Military authorities obviously cannot permit this risk to Mysore State subjects to continue. They therefore trust that the Mysore Government will be so good as to permit them to close all traffic on the land required to define a proper safety zone while shooting is in progress, so that they can use the whole range or at least 20 targets.

x The red lines on the enclosed map shows the danger zone for 20 targets.

x Return requested)

The favour of an early reply is requested.

K. Matthan, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

BJ

D. 15/11/24.
Sd/- K. Hollam.

E. One plan

Dear Mr. Cater,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your D.O. letter No.8248 of the 18th October 1924 on the subject of extending the danger zone behind the butts at the Hebbal rifle range. I am to refer in this connection to the correspondence relating to the removal of the Rifle Range from Hebbal regarding which a reply is still awaited to my letter No.610 of the 4th January 1924. I am particularly to refer to letter No.517/15-Q dated 20th July 1922 from the Col. Commandant, commanding Madras District enclosed with Major Blowden's memo No.6075 of the 27th idem. The danger zone of the present Range was stated to be "not in accordance with modern requirements," but nevertheless the Col. Commandant stated: "we are perfectly content with the Range as it is at present. It is conveniently situated and affords all the necessary facilities for training". If now the Military authorities find the present Range inadequate, it affords ~~another~~ strong ground for shifting the Range to a more suitable locality and this will be as much in the interests of Military as "for the benefit of the Mysore authorities".

The proposal to extend the danger zone of the present Range by authorising the Military authorities to close all traffic on the land indicated in the plan (returned herewith) whenever shooting is in progress would in any case require careful consideration. Apart from the interference with the ordinary agri-

agricultural and other pursuits of the population of the adjoining villages, there are obvious objections to the British Military exercising virtual control over land not in Military occupation. His Highness' Government would therefore strongly urge that the present proposal be abandoned and ~~that~~ the question of shifting the Rifle Range expedited.

Yours sincerely,

A. N. L. Cater, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Resident in Mysore.

D.O.No. 1279

PP 50-24-B

THE MYSORE RESIDENCY,

BANGALORE, 24

Dated 13th February 1925.

G.M. 8814

13.2.25.

P.P. Please put up in advance - hm 13.2.25.

HEBBAL RIFLE RANGES.

Dear Mr. Ramaswamaiya,

I am desired to refer to the correspondence ending with your demi-official letter No. Pol.617/P.P., dated the 24th January 1925. The possibility of moving the rifle range is under the active consideration of the Military authorities who are preparing estimates of the cost of removal and an official reference will be made as soon as possible. Meanwhile they again press for the provision of an adequate danger zone. I am therefore to request that as suggested in my demi-official letter No.8248, dated the 18th October 1924, the Government of Mysore will be so good as to meet the wishes of the Military authorities in this respect, at least as a temporary arrangement.

Yours Sincerely,
Klaus-Gordon.

B. Ramaswamaiya, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

BJ DR

THE MYSORE RESIDENCY,

D.O.No. 1585 Enc 1 Bangalore, 23 February 1925.

P.P.So-24-4

HEBBAL RIFLE RANGES.

Dear Mr. Ramasawmaiya

In continuation of my demi-official letter No.1279, dated the 13th February 1925, I am desired to say that pending a decision on the subject of the removal of Hebbal Rifle Ranges, the Military authorities propose to recommence firing at targets on the western half of the Main Butts from the 1st March next. The Danger Zone behind the Butts which has to be closed to traffic during shooting hours is shown on the attached plan marked A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H. It is hoped that the Mysore Government will see their way to issue the necessary orders on the subject with a view to avoiding any casualties or other inconveniences. The Military authorities will forward monthly on the 28th a time table of shooting for the ensuing month.

Return requested

Asst Secy for
Please bring up.
Action necessary
today.) 23.2.25

Yours sincerely
Evans-Gordon

1

B. Ramasawmaiya, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

PN

AVR

D.O. No. Pol. 728 / P.P. 50-24-5

to our map.

Draft.

General and Revenue Secretariat,

Dated Bangalore, the 24th February 1925.

Dear Major Evans Gordon,

With reference to your demi-official letter No. 1585 dated 23rd instant stating that the Military Authorities propose to recommence firing on the western half of the main butts from the 1st March next, I am desired to state that the question of giving, as requested in your demi-official letter dated 13th instant, the additional danger zone which is said to be required by the Military Authorities, is under active consideration, at least as a temporary arrangement, and that a reply in that matter will be sent to you shortly. ~~and~~ I am to request that pending ~~the~~ decision on the subject, the Military Authorities may be asked to confine practice to the butts which have been in use hitherto so as not to necessitate clearing any area in addition to the --- existing danger zone. In this case, it is believed that it will not be necessary to clear Geddahalli as stated in the note attached to the plan received with your --

+ refaxed herewith

302

letter. It is trusted that the course proposed will be found convenient.

Yours sincerely

hm

23.2.25

D.O.No. 1702 Rec/

THE MYSORE RESIDENCY,

Bangalore, 26th February 1925.

Ramaswamaiyar

I have made full enquiries into the matter and the case really stands thus:-

Under Musketry Regulations as amended in 1914 a certain area is definitely laid down as constituting a Danger Zone and the Military Authorities, if they are to be free of responsibility in the matter, must carry out these instructions to the letter.

The existing Danger Zone (shown shaded on plan) does not meet and for some years has not, in fact met, present requirements owing to the radical changes that have taken place in the armament of the troops.

It is of course true that in the past no stress has been laid on strict adherence to the Regulations and I believe no casualties have actually taken place.

But it is understandable that the Military Authorities may not wish to incur further risk or responsibility in the matter and therefore have now decided to adhere strictly in future to the Regulations on the subject.

The Western half of the Butts have been deliberately selected by the Military Authorities so as to avoid the inconvenience of the Danger Zone extending over the road to the East of the Butts and covering Hebbal village and the Mills in the vicinity.

If the troops were to fire on the Eastern half of the Butts as suggested by you it would merely mean that the Danger Zone marked on the plan would be shifted to the East.

The Danger Zone as marked is calculated on the basis that shooting will take place on Targets between the two points marked X Y on plan and as will be seen this space is the Central Line of the Danger Zone. Thus a shifting of the centre line entails shifting the Zone as a whole. I am informed that the Military authorities do not consider the clearing of the Geddahalli village essential.

Hitherto

Hitherto this has not been done and it might be sufficient to inform the villagers of the time that shooting is to take place so that they may have the necessary warning.

The whole question is one of responsibility for casualties that may occur and the Military Authorities in giving warning of the hours of shooting and the extent of the ground considered "Dangerous" according to Regulations, are merely taking the necessary precautions to avoid hurt or damage to His Highness's subjects.

Having done this their responsibility in the matter may be said to cease.

Yours sincerely
K. Haus-Gordon.

B. Ramaswamaiya, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

BJ

Dear Major Evans Gordon, F.P. 50-24-7

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your D.O.letter No. 1702 dated yesterday and in reply to state as follows:-

It would appear from your letter that the present danger zone is insufficient from the point of view of the Musketry Regulations as amended in 1914, and that the Military authorities have asked for the additional danger zone with a view to strictly adhere to the Regulations and to avoid risk or responsibility thereunder for casualities. ~~The additional danger zone would therefore seem to be required more with a view to satisfying the regulations, than because there is any real risk.~~ This is in accordance with the view of the Col. ~~Commandant Madras District, referred to in Mr. Matthan's D.O. letter dated 15th~~ November 1924, that the Military are perfectly content with the range as it is at present, and though not in accordance with modern requirements it affords all the necessary facilities. ~~The suggestion~~ in my letter of the 24th February 1925 that the Military authorities might confine practise to the butts -- which have been in use hitherto was intended to prevent the need for clearing any area in addition to the existing danger zone. ~~When firing took place on the butts hitherto in use, on previous~~

occasions,

(24)

occasions, it was apparently not necessary either to close the road to the east of the butts or to clear Hebbal village and the Mills in the vicinity. ~~Those~~ the present butts may perhaps be used now also with the same security. The people also are used to firing taking place on these butts. I am therefore to urge the desirability of the Military confining -- themselves to the butts till now in use, pending the shifting to the new range or some decision being arrived at as to any temporary addition to the existing danger zone to satisfy the Musketry Regulations 1914.

may therefore be used as heretofore any necessary for the purpose

I am, in the circs, to request that the Military authorities may be asked to confine themselves to the butts hitherto in use.

Yours sincerely,

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Ln 4074

To
The Registrar Supreme Court Bloemfontein

From
The Registrar, Resident's Court
Wepener

Please refer to D.O. letter No 1702 W 26 Feb 1925 from Secretary to Resident re:- rifle ranges at Hobhouse. Please return urgently Plan sent with that letter.

Supt. Gen Bor

Please attend to this & give me a draft reply to be sent now
Send with a diagram
CRB 2/3/25
2/3/25 TRH 2/3 Regr.

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

(36

D.O No. Pol. 750 dt 1 map
The Resident's Office.

Dear Sir

DL 2/3/25

G. R. S. G/33]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation sheet draft form.*)

As desired
~~Forts reports~~ your Telephone message of even date. I am sending herewith the plan of the Hebbal Rifle Range, sent with DO. No. 1702 dt 26.2.1925 from the Secy to the Resident

Yours Sincerely

C&R

2.3.25.

2/3/25

Issue
2/3/25

D.O.No. 2096 Enc.

THE MYSORE RESIDENCY,

BANGALORE.

9th March 1925.

Dear Mr. Hamza Hussain,

Reference Mr. Ramaswamaiya's demi-official letter No.Pol.746, dated the 28th February 1925, of which a copy was sent to the Officer Commanding, Bangalore Brigade Area.

A copy of his reply is forwarded herewith.

It will be seen that the Military Authorities have definitely decided that they are no longer justified in continuing to disregard Government Orders on the subject.

If the Mysore Government are prepared to absolve the Military Authorities from the responsibility arising from any casualties that may occur the question of the enhanced Danger Zone can be dropped forthwith - and this appears to be the most satisfactory solution.

If, however, this suggestion does not commend itself to the Mysore Government I am desired to say that a decision in regard to the enhanced Danger Zone may be communicated at a very early date.

In the absence of any decision on the subject the Military Authorities may consider it advisable to suspend shooting on the range thus retarding the training of the troops; in which event a reference to the Government of India will be necessary.

The present question has no bearing on that of the removal of the present Range which is being considered separately and in regard to which a communication will very shortly be made to the Mysore Government.

Mr. Barton hopes that the matter will be reconsidered in the light of the above remarks. He is desirous of avoiding a reference to the Government of India in a matter of the kind, especially as the impression might be created that the Mysore Government were making difficulties about giving reasonable facilities to the Military authorities. He would suggest that the least that can be done is that the local Mysore authorities should clear the additional zone

and

BANGALORE.

and keep it clear while the range is in use.

An early reply is requested.

Yours sincerely
Elmus-Arden.

Mir Humza Hussain, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Offg. Dewan of Mysore.

BJ

Memorandum No.137/7/Q., dated the 5th March 1925, from Colonel Commandant, Bangalore Brigade Area, to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

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Hebbal Range.

Reference your demi-official No.1805 dated 2nd March 1925, forwarding copy of demi-official letter No.746, dated the 28th February 1925, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

It is true that since 1914 the Military Authorities in Bangalore have used the range in spite of the fact that the danger zone behind the Butts falls short of the safety margin prescribed by Government of India in the interests of public safety. This is no reason why the Military Authorities shoud continue to disregard Government orders on the subject, without the consent of the Mysore Government.

2. If, therefore, the Mysore Government are willing to accept the risk, in view of the experiences of the past 30 years during which very few, if any, casualties have occurred, the question of the danger zone can be dropped forthwith, and the range utilized as heretofore.

3. I would point out that the range used by the Mysore Lancers is equally, if not more dangerous, than the main range from the point of view of the Regulations on the subject.

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"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR, RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

BJ

DEWAN OF MYSORE

Copy for the file

D.O.R. 11

P.P. 50-24-9

Bangalore,
22nd March 1925.

Dear Major Evans Gordon,

With reference to your D.C. letter No. 2096 dated 9th March 1925, and in continuation of my letter to you dated 17th March 1925, on the subject of the extension of the danger zone at Hebbal, I write to say that the Government have carefully considered the several suggestions contained in your letter. The proposal that the Military authorities should be absolved of any responsibility arising out of any accident in shooting is not acceptable to Government as the liability of the Mysore Government will depend upon the vigilance of the Military authorities which may be slackened if the whole responsibility is to be taken over by the Government of Mysore.

In regard to the next suggestion, viz., to come to a decision early regarding the enhanced danger zone, Government do not feel that the extension of the zone is necessary for reasons already mentioned in Mr. Ramaswamaiya's D.O. letter No. 746 dated 28th February 1925, and in fact

the question of shifting the range would not have been taken up if the Government were agreeable to that proposal.

The Government are, however, prepared to accept the third suggestion of the Hon'ble the Resident, viz., to instruct the local authorities to clear the additional - zone while the range is in use, provided the question of shifting the site is settled as early as possible. This arrangement may be adopted for the current year and I am issuing necessary instructions to the local authorities - accordingly.

I await your communication regarding the removal of the present range.

Yours sincerely,

Sd) Mir Hamza Hasan

Major Evans Gordon,
Secretary to the Hon'ble
the British Resident in Mysore,
Bangalore.

The Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District.

G7678 9 1.4.25

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Residency have requested that arrangements should be made to clear some area in addition to the present danger zone behind the butts in the British Military Rifle Range at Hebbal with a view to strictly adhere to the Military Regulations and to avoid casualities, ~~I am to state that the~~ the Government have consented to make these arrangements ~~for doing this~~ pending the shifting of the range to a new site and a reply has been sent accordingly. I am therefore to request that until further instructions are issued, ~~information may be obtained whenever the British Military make use of the range and~~ steps maybe taken for clearing the additional area required on each occasion, on receipt of intimation ~~Whenever~~ from the British Military authorities when they propose to make use of the range. ~~I have etc.,~~

27.3.25.

Offg:Chief Secretary to Govt.

24/3

B.K.M.